

Annex 8: Summary Update on Resource Mobilization for RSIF

This document provides a summary of the current progress in the resource mobilization for RSIF over the last six months. The report is divided broadly into three sections: Foundations/ development partners; countries and the private sector.

1. Foundations and other development partners:

- a. MasterCard Foundation- Held Discussions with Dr. Peter Materu and a few other MCF officers (e.g. Joseph Nsengimana & James McIntyre, Kimberly Kerr) to agree on a means to engage MCF in support of PASET RSIF specifically. Following discussion with Dr. Materu, icipe has included the African Host Universities to be reviewed as part of an on-going MCF review of African universities that could be supported within the MCF program. The review is currently underway and all the 11 AHUs are included. We are awaiting the outcome of this review. Dr. Materu requested an officer to attend the Forum in Kigali on his behalf to understand the progress. We have a planned meeting with Kimberly Kerr in Early August to discuss the regional programming of MCF, which Kimberly heads. The DG continues to follow up with the Presidents office.
- b. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation: BMGF has recently initiated a new strategy and at present does not support capacity building directly (some support is available through research projects). Icipe has held discussions with a senior program officers (Jodi Lilli) who is following up internally to find the right opportunity for icipe to come to the foundation and brief the entire Foundation discuss at a luncheon, or other opportunity. We have been requested to focus on requesting for research support that includes northern partners to complement the RSIF scholarship support being provided by African governments. Initially, BMGF suggested we link with John Innes Center in UK to explore having them as an international partner. We have linked John Innes Center to the Food Security Universities and have had several discussions. They have committed to take three students initially for the coming cohort as we explore how to have a longer-term partnership. We are waiting for feedback from the Foundation and in the meanwhile, we keep them updated on our progress.
- c. African Development Bank. Icipe was invited to participate in the discussion to develop the African Education Fund (AEF), which is an outcome of resolutions by the Ministers of Education through the Conference of Ministers on Education Development in Africa and the Committee of ten heads of States Championing Education, Science and Technology in Africa. The RSIF manager attended the meeting 15&16 July in Abidjan and also held bilateral discussions with the Education team to discuss PASET. Following this discussions, we held bilateral meetings with Dr. Oley Dibba Wadda, Director for Human Capital, Youth and Skills Development (ADB). The agreement is that icipe should consider to work on gender to support RSIF students capacity building in partnership with AWARD and the Association for Development of Education in Africa (ADEA). A draft concept note will be shared with the ADB by the end of August. Discussion has also been initiated with AWARD on a second proposal on Technologies for Agricultural Transformation in Africa (TAAT), an ongoing ADP project.
- d. Carnegie Corporation of New York: We did discuss at length with Ms. Andrea Johnson at the Foundation. She highlighted that the Foundation is not in a good place at the moment and the only way new partners can be brought on board is to leave out existing partners, which is unlikely. The current Carnegie President feels that the current climate is risky and there is fear that the foundation asset base might shrink. Carnegie focus has been of late on postdoc training- in the past they supported a number of networks including CARTA, RUFORUM, RISE among others.
- e. Nuffic – through the South Africa NESO office: We have a discussion planned for mid July to explore what partnership icipe / RSIF (discussion is planned with Huba Boshoff from the Joburg office). This is exploratory. We did also explore partnership with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign affairs who at present are not able to engage- their focus is on TVET and something that could be considered for other initiatives of PASET. We continue to remain engaged.

- f. African capacity building Foundation: An appointment has been secured for August to meet with their CEO to discuss partnership with RSIF.
 - g. Norway – DG organized presentation on RSIF to Norad team at icipe and we are awaiting feedback from them on their potential interest. We have also organized presentations to selected Norwegian institutions (NIBIO).
 - h. Sweden- DG has been having discussions with SIDA at various levels and we continue to update them on progress. We are also exploring partnership through SLU and the Agrifose 2030 Project - icipe will visit Sweden in September to follow up on these;
 - i. France – DG has provided comprehensive presentation to the Government of France (Various development agencies). Dr. Kelemu was also invited by the French Embassy in Kenya to attend various functions when the President of France came to Kenya. We continue to follow up with them.
 - j. Rockefeller Foundation: We are seeking for appointment to meet with Ms. Betty Kibaara in Nairobi and following that will follow with Roy Steiner in the New York office to discuss collaboration. We did secure an appointment that was not possible due to conflicts in our own activities. RF has a long history of capacity building and an important potential partner to follow up with. The new President Rajiv Shah appears to wish to reengage in human capital development, in addition to work on nutrition among other areas.
 - k. UK Research and Innovation (UKRI): held discussion with Alexandra Spittle, Senior Manager for Policy of the International Development Team of UKRI. She is interested in supporting UK researchers to engage with PASET and particularly for students to intern in the UK with support from UKRI. She will update on the current budget situation and possibility of discussing further this support.
 - l. DFID: Held discussion with Leah Mwai who leads the research systems strengthening initiative for DFID East Africa Research Hub. More discussions are planned for early August.
 - m. IDRC: Held discussions with Dr. Diakalia Sanogo (Senior Program Officer) and Dr. Ellie Osir. This discussion showed that there was interest but there is need for further discussions to see where this might go.
 - n. BADEA (Arab Development Bank for Agricultural Development)- Discussion planned with the African Organisation for Agricultural Development in late July 2019.
 - o. FAO: discussions on-going.
2. Follow up on Countries:
- a. Briefs sent to Zambia, Benin, Tanzania, Guinea, Burkina Faso, Togo, Mozambique. We continue to send other briefs.
 - b. Angola: We have not met with a representative from the Ministry of Education (Lucia Pascoal-lucia.pascoal74@gmail.com) and from the Ministry of Finance. We shall organized to share brief and travel to meet with the ministry team towards the end of this year to discuss their participation in RSIF.
 - c. Malawi: This was delayed awaiting confirmation of new cabinet before engaging with them- the cabinet was released in early July. We have initiated discussions with Mr. James Namfuko (jamesnamfuko@gmail.com) from the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology to whom we shall share the brief.
 - d. Mozambique: We have reached out to a number of higher education ministry people who are working on the Bank Project engagement. Briefs have been sent out and received. There has also been follow up from the team. We involved a ministry person in the evaluation of the host universities.
 - e. South Africa: Through the CAG Member (Miriam Altman), we have prepared a letter to be send to the new Minister of Education South Africa (Hon. Blade Nzimande) and his Director General (Phil Mwajara). We have also reached out to the National Research Foundation of South Africa through the head of the International Office (Dr. Aldo Stroebel) and some South African Universities, particularly the University of Pretoria (Prof. Frans Swanepoel and others).

- f. We have reached out to SADC and ECCAS (RECs) and awaiting to see if we can join their meeting for November this year when their 14 member countries will be present- these are mainly IBRD countries and an important opportunity to catch many at the same time.
3. Private sector (this has been our weaker area,):
- a. Icipe planning to organize private sector events in the five PASET countries in the coming year. For Kenya, we have shared concept note to the ministry through PS Kevin Desai and will also organize a second event at icipe. We discussed also the same with Prof. Aminata to organize for early 2020 in Senegal. We shall share concept note with her in early August. We have held one planning meeting for Nigeria, involving the three host universities there and the National universities commission and agreed on the need to host the event in Lagos. We will be engaging with Rwanda, Ethiopia and Ivory Coast. We also will plan to organize an event for Korea as earlier agreed.
 - b. We hope to engage with OCP through UM6P when we travel to Morocco in early September.